



ArtsTech NEWS

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SPRING 2012

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Creative Connections Mentoring Program
- Digital Connectors Program

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Creative Connections: Arts-Based Mentoring

The Creative Connections project is an innovative approach to serving at-risk urban youth with disabilities, creates and integrates a formal mentoring program into an existing arts based community program. Research has shown that participation in the arts provides an effective context through which to form relationships and provide mentoring for at-risk youth with disabilities.

Being a mentor to a youth is an important contribution that you can make to a young person, your community, and our shared future. Mentoring is one of the most effective ways to help prevent an at-risk youth from engaging in behavior that leads to delinquency, by changing their lives for the better.

Mentoring relationships are powerful and transformative for the youth as well as the mentor. For the mentor, the benefits include feeling great about mak-



**Mentors needed.
Ages 21 and up.**

ing a positive difference in the life of a young person, learning new skills, increased self confidence, and affirmation.

Creative Connections mentors will have training, an online sup-

port community, and once a month a guided arts-based mentoring session. Don't let the arts-based mentoring rule out being a Creative Connections mentor. Even though it is arts-based, mentors do not need to be artists. The art will help; the mentors and mentees bond and develop trust. Have some fun, get creative and most importantly, make a difference in the life of a youth.

For more information about this program, visit our website at www.creativeconnections-kc.org or call 816-461-0201, ext. 308.

The youth need you!

Funding provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, State Street Foundation, DST Systems, and BlueScope Foundation.

Digital Connectors Program

One Economy's Digital Connectors program identifies talented young people, immerses them in technology training, and helps them build their leadership and workplace skills to enter the 21st century economy. Arts Tech is Kansas City's Digital Connectors School. Digital Connectors are also mo-

tivated by community service. A major program requirement is to give back to their families, friends and communities what they have learned.

Over the program, young people gain new knowledge that helps them in school, prepares them for employment, and instills the pride of knowing they had made

a difference in their communities.



Message from the Executive Director



David J. Sullivan
Executive Director

*“ArtsTech,
A place where
youth design
their future”*

As with our recent change to Daylight Savings Time, ArtsTech is also springing forward. Our Creative Connections Mentoring program is off to a great start. Last month, ArtsTech, along with its partners Family Court, Storytellers, and UMKC’s Institute for Human Development, conducted mentor training for eight wonderful adults. Teachers, college students, a school superintendent, and a low student are samples of the community adults volunteering to be mentors. Creative Connections is using art to develop deeper mentor-mentee relationships and UMKC is evaluating this hypothesis. Additionally, more than 50 youth and mentors participated in our monthly art workshops and had a typically festive time. Family Court has more mentees than for whom we can find mentors. Are you interested in becoming a mentor?

Seton High School and ArtsTech are also educationally springing forward. The University of Central Missouri has approved Seton High School for charter school sponsorship. Seton’s appreciation has been submitted to the Mis-

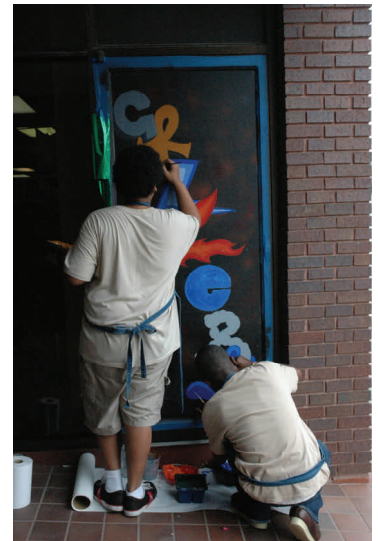
souri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for review and final approval. A decision is expected by the end of May 2012. Seton Center, with Sister Loretto Marie Colwell and Seton High School, with Dr. Dave Albert, are leading this initiative tireless hours are to be congratulated. In the 2012-13 school year, ArtsTech will house the school during its building expansion and will continue to be an educational partner in serving at-risk and troubled youth.

MyARTS is also springing forward. Its capacity-building effort to bring art programming to Eastern Jackson County is nearing completion. By June 2012, many of the MyARTS studios will be in their newly refurbished building in Independence, Missouri. Youth throughout Jackson County will now be served at ArtsTech and in the new building. Jackson County has been our anchor partner as well as leader in serving our youth since 1999. None of these outstanding initiatives could have happened without their support.

ArtsTech, and me personally,

cannot thank our Board of Directors, Staff, our generous funders, our truly collaborative partners and artists, and especially, the courageous young people we serve enough. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of these efforts.

~ Dave Sullivan



Special thanks to Seton High School student, Kyle and his Art instructor Aaron, for creating a work of art at the Gallery entrance.

The Gallery at ArtsTech



The Gallery

Looking for event space? The Gallery has become a popular location with it’s 7,300 square feet of loft style rental space. This versatile space used for multiple types of events such as weddings, re-

ceptions, graduations, parties, fashion shows, art events, award ceremonies, poetry readings, fundraisers, luncheons, meetings, theatrical performances, art, physical education and dance classes.

Call 816-461-0201, or go online at www.artstech-kc.org, for more information,

or set up an appointment to view the space for your next event!



Creative Workshop



Mentors and Mentees creating masks.

Once a month at ArtsTech, the creative workshop is art-based activity program that brings both the mentor and mentee (youth) from the creative connections mentoring program an opportunity to

get to know each other. During the workshop, the mentor and mentee will work and creative together on specialized art projects such as mask-making, visual arts, interpretive reading, ceramics, drawing, canvas images and collage making in a safe and creative environment.



Masking Making Art Project



“Saturday (3/31) was a great turnout adults and kids alike had great fun on mask design workshop, next session will be decorating our mask and we’re looking forward to it. “

~ Michael Toombs, Storytellers Inc.

Computer Donations

ArtsTech is currently accepting:
PIV 1.4GHz or higher computers
PIII or higher laptops
17" working monitors.

ArtsTech accepts Pentium IV or higher CPUs and Pentium III or higher laptops that are in working condition or capable of being repaired.

ArtsTech accepts working 17" CRT monitors or any working flat screen monitors. Persons dropping off a broken monitor will be charged \$15 for proper disposal. ArtsTech uses a certified disposal organization, Surplus Exchange, that guarantees the monitor will be destroyed according to approved rules and regulations and not be

sent to any domestic or foreign landfill.

ArtsTech accepts working keyboards, printers, modems, power supplies, and other accessories necessary to make a computer function properly.

ArtsTech will assess any donor's equipment for reuse or disposal and offer a recommendation for non-usable equipment.

ArtsTech refurbishes the donated telecommunications equipment for redistribution to the disadvantaged, "at-risk" populations, schools, teachers in need, or other non-profit agencies. The equipment is put in good working condition before being placed in service. When redistributed, the machines are ready to plug, load, and play in their "new" environment.

Thank you for your commitment to the environment.



Donation from Cristo Rey High School—Kansas City

Trouble-shooting & Repair Class

During the week of March 12-16, Alex Villasenor, Director of the Computer Redistribution program, taught a group of eight youth computer trouble-shooting and repair techniques at the Salvation Army.

Students not only receive the basic understanding of software, and hardware components, computer parts and troubleshooting, they

learn about the modern day applications of technology and how it changes in the world daily.

Trouble shooting and repair classes are not a open to the public but any organization can request one for up to ten participants.



Computer Trouble-shooting and Repair class from the Salvation Army.



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A Center for Youth Enterprise

ArtsTech's Mission is to better the lives of underserved urban youth through the development of marketable artistic and technical skills.

ArtsTech is a public/private collaborative venture that offers young people and the community an opportunity to advance their artistic and technological skills in an entrepreneurial business environment.

ArtsTech is the only youth-serving business in the Arts Crossroads District. Having a presence in the heart of the art and business district is an enormous asset and also indicates to our young people that they too can participate in Kansas City's renaissance.

Going Green

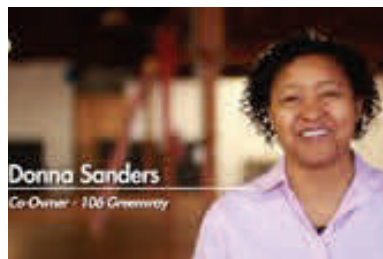
Why organizations are going Green:

- Resource scarcity (e.g., increased commodity prices and price volatility)
- Increased emphasis on long-term perspective
- Economic sustainability of your organization
- Reduced costs due to energy efficiency
- Decrease your carbon emissions
- Reduce energy consumption

With the cost of energy going up every year, organizations can no longer afford to be indifferent. Most organizations realize they could probably save money if they made some changes, **but**

most have no idea where to start or how to implement those changes.

106 Greenway can identify and quantify your energy uses and recommend workable solutions



Donna Sanders, co-owner of 106 Greenway, a division of Leatherwoods Enterprises and partner of ArtsTech.

that are proven to decrease your energy use or costs.

106 Greenway works with non-profits and churches, offices and other commercial properties, restaurants and hospitality, multi-tenant buildings, grocery and convenience stores, and institutions.

Check out the video on YouTube entitled "Green Jobs for Kansas City."

Follow us on:

